



Docket No. 5000-4960

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

7/18/03
E.P.
4-16m

Applicant(s) : Koya SUZUKI et al. Group Art Unit : 3679
Serial No. : 09/972,448 Examiner : Ernesto Garcia
Filed : October 6, 2001
For : JOINING STRUCTURE FOR TWO MEMBERS, AND PROPELLER SHAFT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS
Washington, D.C. 20231

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APR 14 2003
GROUP 3600

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98. The items listed on Form PTO-1449, a copy of which is enclosed, are made of record to assist the Patent and Trademark Office in its examination of this application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to fully consider the items and to independently ascertain their teaching.

1. For each of the following items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, an English language translation of that item or a portion thereof or a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is enclosed:
2. For each of the following items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not in the English language, a concise explanation of the relevance of that item is incorporated in the specification of the above-identified application.
3. Any copy of the items listed on the enclosed copy of Form PTO-1449 that is not enclosed with this Information Disclosure Statement was previously cited by or submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office on _____ in connection with the above identified application.
4. No fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:
 - 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(1), within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a CPA; or

- 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(2), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application; or
- 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits.
- 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(4) before the mailing date of a first office action after the filing of an RCE under §1.114.

5. No fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a Notice of Allowance (where there has been no prior final action), and is accompanied by one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below.

6. A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c), after the period specified in paragraph 4 above but before the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance (where there has been no prior final action):

- A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee.
- Charge the fee to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. _____. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

7. A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d), after the mailing date of a final action or a notice of allowance, whichever comes first, but before payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by:

- a. one of the certifications pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) set forth in paragraph 9 below; and
- b. the fee due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) which is paid as set forth in paragraph 11 below.

8. A fee is due under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being filed in compliance with:

- a. 37 C.F.R. §1.313(b)(3) or §1.313(c)(1), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement may render at least one claim unpatentable and is accompanied by the attached Petition To Withdraw Application From Issue and fee pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.17(h);
- b. 37 C.F.R. §1.313(c)(2) or §1.313(c)(3), after the issue fee has been paid and information cited in this Information Disclosure Statement is to be considered in a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) or a Continuation application upon abandonment of the instant application and is accompanied by the attached Petition To Withdraw Application From Issue and fee pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.17(h).
- c. The fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§1.17(h) and 1.17(p) are paid as set forth in paragraph 10 below.

9. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

I hereby certify that no item of information in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

10. This document is accompanied by a Search Report Communication which was cited in a corresponding PCT or Foreign counterpart application dated ____.

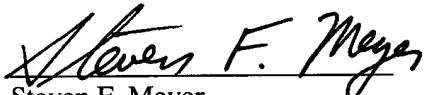
11. A check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed in payment of the fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

Charge the \$ __ fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 13-4500. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Information Disclosure Statement, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 5000-4960. A DUPLICATE COPY OF THIS SHEET IS ATTACHED.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 31, 2003



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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 C.F.R. 1.8a)

Sir:

I hereby certify that the attached

(1) Information Disclosure Statement; (2) PTO Form 1449; (3) three references; (4) Check in the amount of \$180.00; and (5) Return receipt postcard; with this Certificate of Mailing are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on date shown below with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: **COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, Washington, D.C. 20231.**

Respectfully submitted,



Steven F. Meyer
Registration No. 35,613

Dated: March 31, 2003

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